



County of Los Angeles CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICE

Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street, Room 713, Los Angeles, California 90012
(213) 974-1101
<http://ceo.lacounty.gov>

WILLIAM T FUJIOKA
Chief Executive Officer

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Second District

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Third District

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Fourth District

MICHAEL D. ANTONOVICH
Fifth District

December 23, 2011

To: Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky, Chairman
Supervisor Gloria Molina
Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas
Supervisor Don Knabe
Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich

From: William T Fujioka
Chief Executive Officer

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "W. T. Fujioka", is written over the printed name and title.

KATIE A. PROGRESS UPDATE

Over the last three months, there has been substantial progress in fulfilling a number of implementation objectives related to the County's Katie A. Settlement Agreement. The attached Katie A. Assignment Tracking Report identifies a series of tasks, related deliverables, responsible department(s), due dates, and whether the task has been completed. Since our last closed session meeting on Katie A. to discuss exit conditions, the following deliverables/activities have been fulfilled:

- Responses to the Katie A. Advisory Panel's October 2011 Report have been completed and were shared with the Panel at the December 7 – 8, 2011 Panel Retreat. The Panel has been complimentary of the County's efforts to advance a number of items related to: training and coaching; Treatment Foster Care; home-based mental health services; medical hubs; and group home care. Several of your offices attended the meeting on December 8 and heard the discussion of these items. The County's response to the Panel is targeted to be filed with the Federal Court on December 20, 2011.
- The Department of Mental Health (DMH), in conjunction with the Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) and the Chief Executive Office (CEO) submitted a memo on December 12, 2011, outlining actions to address a number of items discussed with Supervisor Molina on October 3, 2011. One item of central significance is the enhanced data sharing protocol between DCFS and DMH. Children receiving a mental health screening designated as "urgent" have their update (DMH 698 Form) uploaded into the Child Welfare Services/Case Management System within one week and weekly

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thereafter for the DCFS social worker to access, as long as a child presents with urgent needs. The departments are targeted to replicate this process beginning in February 2012 for children flagged with routine mental health needs. A huge volume of cases fall under this category – roughly 8,000 a month.

- The County's exit conditions, which establish measurable criteria for demonstrating compliance with the settlement agreement and terminating Court oversight, were approved by the Federal Court on December 1, 2011.
- DCFS, DMH, and Probation developed and disseminated a letter to staff discussing the Core Practice Model, which sets a common vision, guiding principles and a practice framework for achieving shared objectives in working with children and families.
- DCFS distributed a memo to staff mandating stricter controls for the placement of children ages 0-12 in group homes. The policy changes outlined in this memo should have significant impacts in reducing the group home census for young children.

During the first quarter of 2012, DCFS will be articulating a set of strategies to mitigate rising caseloads, implementation of the joint Countywide Field Response Operations/Expedited Response Pilot will commence, a meeting to discuss service access issues with all seven Regional Centers is scheduled, and a series of follow-up activities from the December Panel Retreat will be initiated.

CEO will continue to act as an internal monitor to keep you apprised of the departments' progress in fulfilling Katie A. milestones. Quarterly status reports will be submitted to your Board in: March; June; September; and December of 2012. In addition, the Board will continue to receive the monthly mental health screening memos and the semi-annual updates covering the seven components of the Katie A. strategic plan implementation.

Please let me know if you have any questions regarding the information contained in this memo or the attached tracking report, or your staff may contact Lesley Blacher, Manager, at (213) 974-4603 or via e-mail at lblacher@ceo.lacounty.gov.

WTF:BC:
LB:lb:yw

Attachment

c: Executive Office, Board of Supervisors
County Counsel
Children and Family Services
Mental Health

KATIE A. ASSIGNMENT TRACKING REPORT

12/19/11

Task	Deliverable	Department Responsible	Status/Comments	Due	Completed
<u>September 2011 Panel Report Recommendations</u>	1. TRAINING AND COACHING: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop expectations that Children Social Worker's (CSWs) in Compton will begin using family teams in their work with families and assist the office to determine the types of cases with which to begin and pace of implementation. 	DCFS	Developed response in separate template	11/8/11	Yes
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Allocate additional staff to Compton to reflect recognition of the need for time to implement regular family meetings. 	DCFS	Developed response in separate template	11/8/11	Yes
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assist the new coaches assigned to master the teaming process so they can coach and mentor Compton staff. 	DCFS/DMH	Developed response in separate template	11/8/11	Yes
	2. DEVELOPMENT OF TREATMENT FOSTER CARE BEDS: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The County should allocate a supplementary 	DCFS	Developed response in separate template	11/8/11	Yes

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	amount of funds to providers to support recruitment and retention efforts.				
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Conduct a QSR on a sample of children recently transitioned to higher levels of care from TFC to assess the reasons the service is not preventing such placements.	DCFS/DMH	Developed response in separate template	11/8/11	Yes
	3. HOME-BASED MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES: <ul style="list-style-type: none">Amend mental health provider contracts with a significant presence in Compton, focus on mental health providers serving the Compton Office as the target for intensive home-based mental health service implementation.	DMH	Developed response in separate template	11/8/11	Yes
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Ensure that focused consultative attention is given to MAT staff, directed at improving	DMH/DCFS	Developed response in separate template	11/8/11	Yes

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	their ability to conduct strength and needs-based assessments and link their role with the family team.				
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Conduct a QSR of a small sample of cases served by major mental health providers for Compton and solicit participation of provider agency leadership as shadows or invite them to join already planned QSR reviews.	DMH	Developed response in separate template	11/8/11	Yes
	4. MEDICAL HUBS: <ul style="list-style-type: none">To the extent possible, the County should identify children who were not referred to medical hubs and investigate the reasons for non-referral. The County should then develop a clear plan to increase referrals to the hubs including some mechanisms imposing accountability for non-performance.	DCFS	Developed response in separate template	11/8/11	Yes

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	5. CHILDREN IN GROUP CARE SETTINGS: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prohibit the placement of any child under the age of 10 in a group home. 	DCFS	Developed response in separate template	11/8/11	Yes
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The County should issue a child/sibling group-specific request for proposal to providers asking they design a specific program of services and supports for any child 0-12 for whom a group home placement is considered. 		Developed response in separate template	11/8/11	Yes
CORE PRACTICE MODEL LETTER	Three Signature Core Practice Model (CPM) Support Letter developed and signed by the directors of DCFS, DMH, and Probation.	DCFS, DMH, and Probation		11/11	Yes, CPM Joint Letter signed on November 14, 2011.
CASELOAD REDUCTION	CASELOAD REDUCTION PLAN: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assign project leads & schedule regular meeting dates by December 1, 2011. By February 1, 2012 develop a list of caseload reduction strategies in preparation for the 	DCFS	Leads identified and tentative listing of strategies developed Development of milestones and timelines underway	12/11 2/12	Yes

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	Panel's April report to Court.				
<u>First District Follow-Ups:</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Need Implementation Plan of how to address TFC and other problematic areas that could delay exit from the lawsuit. Design Katie A. related MAPP goals for managers. Review of Wraparound-service intensity/quality of services. 	DCFS	Response developed	12/11	Yes, memo submitted to First District on December 12, 2011.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Submit provider information coversheet on all cases by January 2012. How does a parent/caregiver know if a child is receiving mental health services? What is the protocol? What is the duty of a mental health provider if a child in an open DCFS case closes & the child stops coming to treatment, particularly one on meds? Is there policy on this? 	DMH	Response developed	12/11	

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop database flag for high needs children to track service delivery and changes in service delivery. 				
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Examine five cases on a monthly basis to determine if mental health screening processes are adhered to, as well as mini-QSR to evaluate overall quality of mental health services. 	DMH/DCFS	Response developed	12/11	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Streamline monthly mental health screening report. 	CEO	Response developed	12/11	
<u>Countywide Field Response Operations Expedited Response Pilot (FRO/ERP)</u>	<u>DCFS/DMH:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pilot implementation planning 4/1-12/11 Implementation 1/12-6/30/12 Evaluation 7/12-8/31/12 	DCFS/DMH	<p>Pilot approved in May 2011. Staffing of Pilot: Eight DMH Psychiatric Social Worker (PSW) positions and Four DCFS (two Children's Social Worker (CSW) III positions and two Intermediate Typist Clerks (ITC)). All positions except 1 PSW have been hired.</p> <p>Training has been rolled out to the following offices: Palmdale, El Monte, Metro North, West LA, Compton, Torrance/S. County, and Emergency Response Command Post/Command Post Hotline. The remaining offices will be trained in January.</p>	9/30/12	

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<u>COCO Assignments:</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Filing of Exit Conditions. Draft response to Panel Report. 	COCO	Response targeted for Court filing 12/20/11	11/11 12/11	Yes, adopted by Court on December 1, 2011.
<u>Inventory of QSR Case Stories</u>	Submit QSR Case Stories to Panel	DCFS	DCFS is compiling all of the case stories and will submit them electronically when complete. DCFS is developing a QI website link on LA Kids which will feature the case stories.	12/11	
<u>Katie A. Executive Leadership Team Meeting</u>	Schedule a meeting with all seven Regional Centers to discuss access services.	DCFS/DMH/CEO Department Heads	The meeting is tentatively scheduled for February 9, 2012.		Yes
<u>Follow-up Katie A. Panel Retreat December 7 and 8</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop a concise description of the purpose and assessment of the Compton Pilot Project. Develop metrics to monitor progress. This will be discussed on next Project Leadership Team call with the Panel. Review Katie A. Class Members systematically across time. Consider incorporating in the next semi-annual report. Capacity for responding to 	DCFS DCFS/DMH DCFS/DMH DCFS/DMH	Developing Response Developing Response Developing Response Providing information on FRO/ERP	1/31/11	

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	<div>crisis or preventing crisis (crisis stabilization/intervention strategies)?</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Strengthen recruitment and retention of foster parents for Treatment Foster Care.	DCFS	Efforts underway		